

**CONFIDENTIAL**

FEB 1 1951

The Honorable Brian McMahon  
Chairman  
Joint Committee on Atomic Energy  
Congress of the United States  
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Chairman:

Thank you for your letter of 22 January 1951 in which you request a report on Soviet capabilities to counter the delivery of U. S. atomic weapons. An estimate of this nature will require the participation of the Weapons Systems Evaluation Group of the Department of Defense, which I have requested. This Agency is willing to undertake the responsibility of preparation and of bringing the estimate into the current schedule of intelligence production. This will take some time as a detailed study will be necessary, but I believe we can have a satisfactory estimate ready for you by April 1.

Your letter also requests information as to the background of the semi-annual report which was recently delivered to you. Since this information is of a very sensitive nature, I have asked Mr. Walter Pforzheimer to discuss with you informally the best means by which it can be transmitted to you.

With kindest regards, I am

Sincerely,

STAMP

Walter D. Smith  
Director

W.Pforzheimer:ble  
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